

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-41 are pending in this application. Claims 1 and 20, which are independent, have been amended. Support for this amendment is provided throughout the Specification as originally filed and specifically at pages 17 and 18 of the Specification. No new matter has been introduced by this amendment. Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which the Applicants are entitled.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-15 and 19-40 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,741,991 to Saito (hereinafter, merely "Saito") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,185,685 to Morgan et al. (hereinafter, merely "Morgan"). Applicant has reviewed the rejection and respectfully requests the rejection be withdrawn for the following reasons.

Independent claim 1 recites, *inter alia*:

"...re-encrypting the content key using a user storage key and storing the content data to an external storage medium." (emphasis added)

Applicant submits that neither Saito or Morgan, taken alone or in combination, teach or suggest the above-identified feature of claim 1. Specifically, Applicant submits that nothing has been found in Saito or Morgan that would disclose or suggest re-encrypting the content key using a user storage key and storing the content data to an external storage medium, as recited in claim 1.

For at least the above-stated reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 1 is patentable.

Independent claim 20 is similar in scope to claim 1 and is believed patentable for similar reasons.

III. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

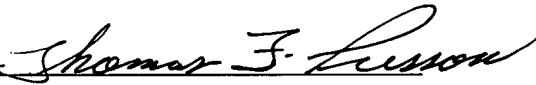
In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosures in the cited reference, or references, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicant respectfully requests early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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